

SEASON'S GREETINGS

CHRISTMAS STORY

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the plant . . . A Christmas poem with a newspaper slant written especially for the PRESS by Becky Schaffer can be found on page B-7. The poem tells of the goings-on in a newspaper office on Christmas Eve.

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Marina Savings Robbed

Two bandits with an electronic age approach to the old armed robbery routine held up a branch of Marina Federal Savings and Loan located at 170th St. and Hawthorne Blvd., Friday and escaped with more than \$9,000, sheriff's deputies reported.

The gunmen, both described as being in their middle 50's and neatly dressed in business suits, used a small walkie-talkie type radio transmitter to summon their getaway car, investigators theorize.

Deputy David Ruesch said that witnesses noted a strong resemblance between the pair and they could possibly be brothers.

The bandits entered the office shortly after noon and asked for change for a five dollar bill, Ruesch stated.

However, later receiving the change these men pulled guns and forced Manager Sam Reedy, 34, to lie down on the floor. Another employee, Mrs. Helen Harrison, 39, was made to sit in a chair.

A bookkeeper, Mrs. Rosalie Mahoney, 40, was forced to fill a paper sack inscribed "Season's Greetings" with the money in the office.

While the money was being collected, the other robber sat on the counter and whispered into the walkie talkie, Reedy said.

After getting the money, the men walked out of the office. No car was seen or heard.

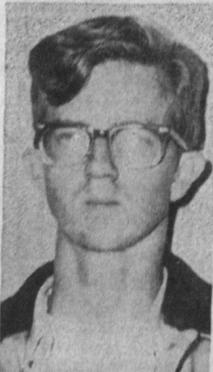
RAY SILAGY NAMED PORAC PRESIDENT

Police Officer Ray Silagy has been named as president of the Police Officers' Research Association of California, succeeding Officer Charles Oates. Other officers to be installed yesterday included Paul Lemke, treasurer, and James Davis, Robert Dunn and James Popp, members of the board.

CARSON YOUTH CHARGED WITH PARENTS' MURDER

Eighteen-year-old Fred Kipp Bassett is being held today in county jail awaiting arraignment for the murder of his parents.

Young Bassett, a freshman psychology major at Long Beach State College, shot his mother and father late Thursday afternoon and left to die in the Carson area home the family shared, sheriff's homicide detectives reported.



FRED KIPP BASSETT — PRESS photo by Floke



HIGHWAY PATROLMEN will stop motorists again this year in their holiday traffic checks which started this weekend and will continue through Jan. 1, Capt. Erret Greer, commander of the South Los Angeles area, disclosed yesterday. Scattered over the county, the CHP roadblocks will be in operation at all hours in an attempt to cut down on deaths and injuries which occur on the highways during this festive season. Motorcycle officers of the

CHP's Special Enforcement Unit, under the direction of Sgt. Chuck Brunner, will check vehicles for mechanical defects as well as the licenses of their drivers. Prime target in the annual Yule check will be motorists who drive under the influence of liquor. Above, Traffic Officer Chuck Nally motions for driver to stop while Patrolman Del Kuhns stands by.

PRESS photo

Asst. Chief's Claim Seeks Half-Million

Damage claims totaling more than a half of a million dollars were filed Friday by Torrance Police Department's Assistant Chief Mervyn H. Porter against the county.

District Attorney William B. McKesson, Chief Deputy

District Attorney Manley Bowler and the Board of Supervisors were the principal defendants named in the claim which charges that Porter was "libeled and slandered" by the district attorney's office.

Porter in his claim states that remarks made in early September by Bowler have caused him to be "ridiculed, embarrassed and humiliated before the public and friends in the community."

The damage claim asserts that Bowler told newsmen that he was investigating illegal activities and "misconducts of higher officials of the Torrance Police Dept."

Porter contends the statements were "derogatory" and defamed his character and reputation.

Since Porter is second in command of the department, the claim states, he is, therefore, high ranking.

The County Board of Supervisors, it is expected, will consider the claim at its next scheduled meeting.

Porter is asking \$50,000 in general damages and \$500,000 in punitive damages. Attorney Clifford J. Peterson filed the claim on behalf of the assistant chief.

Main Breaks Leaving Hole in Crenshaw

Illustrated on Page Two

What started out to be a small crack in the pavement this week turned into a gaping chasm, causing the barricading of Crenshaw Ave. in the Rolling Hills area south of Torrance.

Ruptured Main

A ruptured water main was blamed for causing the roadway to buckle, crack and finally cave in, sheriff's deputies reported. Water Department officials said a 21-inch pipeline which runs beneath the street broke. Quick work on the part of Palos Verdes Water Company workers avoided any disruption of service to area homes.

Three county fire department hydrants were reported to be dry as a result of the break.

Start Repairs

Work was started immediately to remedy the 12-foot deep hole which stretched the width of Crenshaw. Traffic was restricted to only two lanes during repair work. Officials gave no estimate as to when normal traffic will be resumed in the cave-in area.

Torrance Motor Vehicle Office Slates Late Hours

The Torrance office of the Department of Motor Vehicles will soon be staying open later one night a week, it was announced this Thursday.

The local office, which normally closes its doors at 5 p. m., will extend business hours to 7 p. m. as part of a state-wide program. The new plan is slated to

take effect in April, a DMV spokesman said.

Only the larger offices will make the change. Besides Torrance, the Hawthorne and Compton branches will keep late hours. The San Pedro office will not participate, it was stated.

Probably Wednesday

A specific night for the program in Torrance has not been selected, but DMV officials said it would probably be Wednesday. The local facility has been open on Wednesday nights since September in an unpublished pilot program.

Four employees are needed to keep the licensing division open until 7 p. m.; however, because of a shifting of work schedules, the late hours will not cost the state additional salaries, an official explained.

Services available at night include driving tests as well as written license examinations, eye tests and cashier facilities. Vehicle registration section will not be opened evenings because these services generally can be handled by mail.

COUNTY PLANNERS DENY ZONE CHANGE

Members of the County Regional Planning Commission this week turned down a request for a zoning exception to allow construction of an 80-unit apartment development in the Carson area.

A spokesman for the owners of the 165 by 504-foot piece of property located at 22211 Delores St. Carl A. Fiedler, appeared before the planners,

AT HARBOR HOSPITAL

Doctor to Head Board

Dr. Donald Brayton of Beverly Hills will take office as president and chairman of the board of directors of the Harbor General Hospital Attending Staff Association on Jan. 2.

Election of Dr. Brayton was announced by Dr. Kirk teGroen, secretary-treasurer and medical director of Harbor General Hospital, following the annual dinner-business meeting of 375 members of the association in the hospital's dining room.

Dr. Brayton, 51, was born in Salt Lake City but has been practicing general surgery in Los Angeles since 1947, when he was certified by the Board of Surgery.

A graduate of Stanford and Harvard universities, Dr. Brayton served in the Army Medical Corps in World War II, he is past president of the Los Angeles Surgical Society (1962) and his affiliations include Los Angeles County Medical Association, American Medical Association, Los Angeles Academy of Medicine, Pacific Coast Surgical Association, and he is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

Other 1964 officers elected are Marvin J. Rosenberg, M. D., first vice-president, Los Angeles; Frank Nicholas, M. D., second vice-president, Inglewood; Robert J. Heurlin, D.D.S., third vice-president.

Change Council Meet

The regular meeting of the Torrance City Council slated to be held on Dec. 17 has been adjourned to Monday, Dec. 30, at 5:30 p. m. in City Council chambers.



Dr. Donald Brayton



LOCAL BUSINESSMEN play Santa Claus to Torrance children via telephone. From the left, Bill Everett of Everett Construction; Dr. Al Posner, from Torrance schools; and Stan Hamblin of Don-Hamblin and Asso-

ciates answer calls placed to the north pole. Each year Wright Anserfone provides a free telephone hookup so local kids can place direct calls to Santa.

—PRESS photo